

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-12, 14-20, and 23-25 are currently pending. Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, and 24 have been amended. Claims 9 and 21 have been canceled. Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 12, 14-20, 23, and 25 are allowed and claims 3, 6, 7, 9-11, and 24 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1, as the base claim for claim 9, has been amended to include the limitations of claim 9. As such, claim 1 is allowable. In addition, claims 2, and 7-8 depend from claim 1 and are also allowable.

Claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). As such, claim 3 is allowable.

Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). As such, claim 6 is allowable.

Claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). As such, claim 10 is allowable. In addition, claim 11 depends from claim 10 and is also allowable.

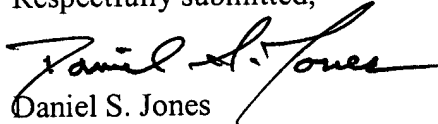
Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). As such, claim 24 is allowable.

### CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-12, 14-20, and 23-25 are allowable.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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